

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Roy Rood, who passed away on October 8. Roy was a longtime resident and the founding father of my hometown of Tequesta, Florida.

Mr. Rood was born in 1918 on a farm in Jupiter, Florida, one of 11 children. He spent his early years on the family dairy farm, where he learned the value of a hard day's work and love for working outside. The first Tequesta post office was located on his family's property and was placed on maps of that era as a settlement called "Rood."

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Roy joined the Navy, where he served with honor in World War II as an aviation mechanic on an aircraft carrier that was part of the fleet that participated in the Battle of Guam. Following the war, Roy returned home to Florida, where he started a landscaping business that continues today.

Over the past 60 years, Roy Rood helped found American Legion Post 271, the local Kiwanis Club, the First Bank of Jupiter, and the Jupiter Christian School.

The residents of Tequesta are lucky to call Roy Rood our founding father. He will be missed.

THE MEMPHIS TIGERS

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Tonight is going to be the sixth game of the World Series. Sports means money, business, and jobs. The St. Louis economy has been spurred on by the World Series to where they're not cutting employees because they have had increased sales tax. It's the same way with college sports.

I want to encourage all the Big East presidents to consider the University of Memphis for membership. Memphis is a major city. It is the home of Federal Express, International Paper, and other major companies. We don't have a professional football team in Memphis. So if we get in the Big East, in essence, you are our professional football team and the city would rally around it, unlike in Dallas and Houston, where they have professional teams. The Big East is known for basketball.

Rick Pitino, the coach of our rival, the University of Louisville, has suggested Memphis should be in the conference to keep the Big East as a primary basketball conference. What a great thing to see Memphis and Louisville again in a conference game.

We ought to be beyond just dollars—although Memphis can bring them—but also competitive rivalries that make the sport what it has been in the American appetite. I encourage the Big East to include the University of Memphis in its expansion plans.

SERGEANT ROBERT B. COWDREY

(Mr. TIPTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to rise in commendation of Sergeant Robert B. Cowdrey, who served our country with great honor and pride. Sergeant Cowdrey gave his life for our country on October 13 while attempting a helicopter rescue of his fellow soldiers under fire.

Sergeant Cowdrey was raised in La Junta, Colorado. He graduated from La Junta High School in 1990. He was a devoted outdoorsman and family man who enjoyed bow hunting. Cowdrey enlisted in the Army in 2003 and was serving his third tour of duty in Afghanistan at the time of his death. Sergeant Cowdrey's duties included flying into active combat zones to deliver medical assistance and rescue troops while under fire. He was highly decorated for his heroic service, earning the Bronze Star and two Army commendations for valor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Cowdrey, a selfless American hero whose bravery and sacrifice for our country are examples of what makes this country great. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Jill, and their three sons, Justin, Jacob, and Nathan, and the entire Cowdrey family.

□ 1150

JOB CREATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise to indicate that we have an opportunity to be good Americans and to be the kind of resilient, strong, patriotic Nation that all of us love. We love this country.

I gathered this morning with a group of leaders who addressed the question of working issues, union leaders. Every last one of them said, let us create jobs, jobs in America. Part of it could be passing the jobs bill that the President has introduced dealing with the question of infrastructure. One Member who was coming to the meeting said, I was late because of our infrastructure problems. This would create jobs, bring back our law enforcement, police officers and teachers, where classrooms are going up and up and up in size because we don't have enough teachers.

And as you well know, the President has announced that we will be bringing home our valiant troops from Iraq. 150,000 of these young people that will need jobs. Let's get them in a training program where they have to get a stipend that will help support them, legislation that I have introduced.

This last bill that I had to vote against, it's sad that we would take Medicaid to help our small businesses and our vendors, whereas 2 years ago I voted on it because we used the stimulus funds to do so. There are many pay-fors to help small businesses, but what we need to do is to focus on paying and creating—paying people, Amer-

icans, so they can eat and put food on their table. We need to create jobs and stop taking money from Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security.

Let's all work together, pull together, balance this budget on the basis of the fact that the Nation is not broke. We can do this.

JOB CREATION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, not only can we not wait; we can't afford to wait. And here in the House, we haven't waited.

With this week's passage of H.R. 1904, the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2011, and H.R. 674, the repeal of the 3 percent withholding rule on certain payments made to vendors by government entities, the House Chamber now has passed more than 17 job-creating bills in the 112th Congress.

H.R. 1904 will boost development of our Nation's copper resources, generating billions in new revenue and creating new environments for economic growth. Much like the costly Form 1099 requirements that we succeeded in repealing earlier this year, the 3 percent withholding rule would impose substantial new burdens on cash-strapped employers, impeding cash flows and further undermining job creation.

Passage of H.R. 674 will not only create jobs; it will relieve Federal, State and local governments of the need to comply with unfunded administrative burdens that the rule would impose.

Mr. Speaker, not only can we not wait; we cannot afford to wait. And here in the House, we haven't waited.

VOW ACT

(Mr. NUGENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, on October 12, 2011, the House took an important step in addressing the alarming number of unemployed veterans currently living within the United States by passing the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act.

Known as the VOW Act, this legislation will confront the rising unemployment problems that our veterans in the U.S. are facing by providing veterans of past eras with additional training benefits, ensuring all transitioning servicemembers have access to a transition assistance program, and by strengthening protections under USERRA for our National Guard and Reserve troops. As a father of three sons currently serving in the United States Army, I have a deep appreciation for the service our men and women in uniform have given to this country.

Additionally, one of my priorities when I came to Washington was to ensure that when our troops return home,

they have jobs and a strong economy to come to. This legislation is a great first step in fulfilling our responsibilities to all veterans who have sacrificed much on behalf of this Nation. With that in mind, I was proud to support the passage of the VOW Act.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is prepared to recognize a Member of the minority party for 1 hour.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

(Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I have prepared remarks today, but I want to talk about Yucca Mountain.

We've heard a lot of talk this week about the Presidential candidates and Yucca Mountain. America needs to realize that South Carolina, on the Savannah riverside, is currently holding all of the legacy weapons product material that came out of the Non-proliferation Treaty—plutonium, sitting in my State, in my district, that is slated to go, under past agreements, to Yucca Mountain. It's the right place.

America needs to bring Yucca Mountain back online. And let's take the legacy weapons products out of South Carolina and put them in a long-term storage facility.

A TEXAN LOOKS AT CURRENT EVENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, for going on a couple months now, we've been hearing the President say we need to pass his jobs bill—pass his jobs bill right away, right now, pass his jobs bill. And it was so ironic to have a President of the United States, who says he wants to work with the Members of Congress, but Members of Congress won't work with him, and in his purported "effort" to work with Members of Congress, he doesn't ask to sit down with Congress in a private meeting and talk about these issues. Oh, no, that would really show an intent to work with Congress, to sit down in a room where we can visit about the issues. That would be really working with Congress. Instead, what we have from the President of the United States is a demand.

Now, I'm not sure historically, Mr. Speaker, how many times a President of the United States has decided to just throw a little hissy fit and, I'm going to come talk to Congress. Well, we know that he was an instructor. He wasn't a professor, but an instructor.

You can be an instructor in a law school if you practice law on the side or a community organizer on the side, or whatever; and they'll let you come teach a course or two. So anybody who has been involved in a law school, you would think, even as a low instructor, would know that the Constitution makes very clear that the President of the United States has no right, no moral authority to demand to come speak in the House.

Now, the President would never give credit to the willingness of this Congress to vote unanimously to allow the President, after his little hissy fit, to come speak in the House, but we did. He demanded to come speak to the House. He has to have an invitation to do that. In social circles, if somebody demanded to come to someone's house—I demand an invitation to come lecture you in your house—most people would say forget it. But this House, controlled by Republican Members—the majority here, Republican, Democrat majority down in the Senate—we voted unanimously. There were no objections to inviting the President to come lecture us rather than sit down and try to work with us.

□ 1200

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I certainly will yield to my friend from Texas.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I just want to thank you for taking this time to speak on this subject. I think it's commendable that you would do that, and I think you're exactly right. I would encourage you to keep telling the truth as you know it.

And how proud we are of you in the Texas delegation and certainly in east Texas, where you represent that part of the State so well. So keep up the good work.

Mr. GOHMERT. Well, that's so unexpected and unnecessary, and it actually means a great deal. Thank you.

Somebody that's been here slugging it out longer than I would ever be able to handle, Mr. BARTON from Texas came as a young man, and he's been able to endure the slings and arrows through many, many years of being in the minority.

And we're back to dealing with a White House who wants, he says, to negotiate, to work with Congress, and does so by demanding to come talk to Congress, and comes.

Did we have a warm, friendly meeting here as the President stood here on the second level?

Well, actually we got lectured. We were lectured that we needed to pass the President's jobs bill right away, right away, 16, 17 times. We've just got to do it now.

During the speech, I don't recall the President ever saying, I really don't have a bill. I don't have a bill. And, in fact, if you want to sit down and work with me, you won't be able to because in the morning I'm getting on Air

Force One, funded by the taxpayers, and basically hit the campaign trail. And I'm going to be beating up on you guys in the House of Representatives for not being willing to negotiate with me, even though I'm not around. And, by the way, I'm not going to negotiate even if we sat down because you've got to take my bill completely, pass the whole thing. I'm not going to compromise on anything.

That was the message for a number of weeks. Take it; pass it as it is. Never mind the fact that he didn't have a bill when he hit the road and was condemning Congress for not passing his bill. That's just strange.

You would think if somebody really wants to work with Congress, really wants to do something for the people of America that are hurting—I've had four job fairs in east Texas, and I've gone to each one, and it breaks your heart. There are people in their fifties and sixties, there's a lot of young people, a bigger percentage of young people, but there were older people, tremendous experience, tremendous education and training, been laid off because of the bad economy.

And it's heartbreaking even more so because this Congress and this President have to take responsibility for continuing to put more and more laws, regulations, burdens on business that keep them from being able to retain jobs, keep them from being able to expand and create more jobs.

And when you hear from people who've lost their job, and they're not only brokenhearted, but they're upset because then they find out that this administration has done things like throw \$600 million at Solyndra, has spent millions of dollars, hundreds of millions of dollars, to create jobs. One giveaway program, seems like I read we spent \$8 million per job that was created. Different amounts resulting in a different number of jobs.

One of the things I've seen in talking to people in Texas who are involved in the education system is that when the President's so-called stimulus bill in January of 2009 was passed and it was done, rammed through like the ObamaCare bill was, it didn't have, it didn't seem, the full support of America. But it had a majority in the House, it had a majority in the Senate, and so it passed.

I like to think I'm objective enough that I certainly acknowledge it didn't start in January of '09 with President Obama. A good man, a smart man—he's not given credit for that—made a major mistake when President Bush trusted Hank Paulson. Paulson says, we're about to have a catastrophe, give me \$700 billion and I'll keep things on track, get things back on track.

We don't give \$700 billion to one man and say go fix things. You don't do that in America. That's not what the country was founded for. But it was done. And as I understand it, about \$250 billion of the \$700 billion is around the amount that Hank Paulson squandered